undertaking capacity building of small and unorganized sector, liberalized wine and beer policy, launching a major promotional campaign for the food processing sector and larger public investment for creation of critical rural infrastructure in food processing sector.

The Ministry has been implementing various other schemes also for promotion and development of food processing industries. Under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/ Modernization/Establishment of Food Processing Industries, Ministry of Food Processing Industries extends financial assistance to food processing units in the form of grants-in-aid @ 25% of the cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works subjects to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs in general areas or 33.33% subject to maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakhs in difficult areas such as Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and North Eastern States, A & N Islands, Lakshadweep and ITDP Areas. In addition, under the Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture in North Eastern State, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand, higher levels of assistance @50% of the eligible components upto Rs. 4.00 crore for setting up and Rs. 1.00 crore for upgradation of fruit and vegetables processing is allowed. The Government of India has also launched the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for holistic development of Horticulture in the country. Financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid is also provided for Development of Infrastructure, Human Resource Development, Promotion of Quality Assurance, Laboratories, Codex Standards and R&D and other promotional measures to encourage development of the food processing industries.

Expansion of Food Processing Industries

313. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that the food processing industries despite being priority sector, has not flourished to its potential for various reasons;

whether it is also a fact that most significant among them are the unfavourable legal regime governing food products and agricultural marketing and the lack of vital infrastructure, notably cold chains; and

if so, the steps Government proposes to take to promote rapid expansion of this sector to avert huge wastage of perishable food?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. India with its strong base in agriculture provides a large and varied raw material base for food processing. The total food consumption in India is estimated at Rs. 860,000 crores of which consumption of processed food accounts for Rs. 460,000 crores. Further, with liberalization of global trade regime, India has the opportunity to export more processed food items to international markets. The growth rate of food processing industries during the 9th Plan period has been 7.1%. The average rate of growth during the first four years of the 10th Plan was @13.025% at current prices and @6.75% at 1999-2000 prices. There has been significant growth of food processing units during the last three-four years. During the period 2003-2004 to 2006-2007 growth of Food Processing units in the small scale sector has registered an increase of 21% from 16.5 lakhs to 20 lakh units. Further, FDI in FPI sector has increased from Rs. 177 crores in 2002-03 to Rs. 441 crores in 2006-07.

The food processing sector has therefore, shown considerable growth during the last four years. However, there is still considerable potential that exist for the growth of the food processing sector. Some of the major constraints in the growth of food processing industries include lack of required infrastructure facilities such as farm level primary processing centres, collection centres, storage facilities, cold chain and transportation system of farm products from farm to market and processing centres, lack of backward and forward linkages and low capacity utilization of units, etc. It also included the existence of multiplicity of Food Laws and standard setting and enforcement agencies and unfavourable tax regime.

In order to address these constraints and to promote food processing industries to exploit both the domestic and international market potential, a Vision Document 2015 on Food Processing Industries for the country as a whole has been finalized by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MFPI), which envisages trebling the size of the processed food sector . by increasing the level of Processing of perishable from 6% to 20%, value addition from 20% to 35% and share in global food trade from 1.5% to 3% by 2015. The Government has approved the integrated strategy for promotion of agribusiness-Vision, Strategy and Action Plan for the Food Processing Sector.

During the Tenth Plan the Ministry has been providing financial assistance in the form of grant for setting up of Food Parks under its Plan Scheme @25% of project cost in general areas and @33.33% in difficult areas subject to a maximum of Rs. 4 crores for creation of common facilities such as power, water supply, cold storage, food testing labs, common processing facilities, effluent treatment plant, etc. It has also been providing grant-in-aid upto 25% of cost of plant and machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 33.33% in difficult areas with a ceiling of Rs. 75 lakhs for setting up of cold storages including special type of cold storages with controlled/modified atmosphere technology as an integral part of processing units or as a common facility in food parks for non-horticulture produces.

The thrust areas identified for strategic intervention cover, establishment of Mega Food Parks in identified clusters with appropriate backward and forward linkages, creation of integrated cold chains/value addition and preservation infrastructure, modernization of abattoirs, upgradation of hygienic and quality street food and food streets, establishment and upgradation of quality control laboratories, restructuring and strengthening of MFPI, rationalizing lax structure, incentivising FDI and private investment in infrastructure, undertaking capacity building of small and unorganized sector, launching a major promotional campaign for the food processing sector and need for larger public investment for creation of critical rural infrastructure in food processing sector.

In the 11 th Plan, the Ministry proposes to implement a revamped Scheme for Infrastructure Development under which, it will give financial assistance for setting up of Mega Food Parks, cold chain infrastructure, value added centres and packaging centres. The Mega Food Park Scheme will provide backward and forward linkages as well as reliable and sustainable supply chain. The Cluster based demand driven approach will provide linkages from farm to market with linkages from local to regional level through Primary Processing Centres, Collection Centres, Strategic Distribution Centre-cum-Cold Chain at critical locations—having Controlled Atmosphere storage and distribution centres where large quantities can be stored and supplied to distribution centres for fresh sale, and to processing industries for processing. The emphasis will be on building strong linkages with agriculture and horticulture, enhancing project implementation capabilities, increased involvement of private sector investment and support for creation of rural infrastructure to ensure a steady supply of good

quality agri horticulture produce. As in the Tenth plan, in the Eleventh plan also under the Scheme for Technology Upgradation/Modernization/Establishment of Food Processing Industries, Ministry of Food Processing Industries extending financial assistance to food processing units in the form of grants-in-aid @25% of the cost of plan and machinery and technical civil works subject to a maximum of Rs. 50.00 lakhs in general areas or 33.33% subject to maximum of Rs. 75.00 lakhs in difficult areas.

In regard to the multiplicity of Food Laws and enforcement agencies governing food products, the Government has notified an integrated Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006 which envisages establishment of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India for laying down science based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacturer, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption. The actions has also been initiated by the Government to amend Agriculture Produce Marketing Development and Regulation (APMC) Rules to create favourable legal regime and conducive environment for investment in Food Processing sector.

Kendriya Vidyalayas in Sub-Divisional Headquarters

314. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether Government would consider to set up Kendriya Vidyalayas in every sub-divisional headquarter in Assam;

if not, the reasons therefor;

whether Government is taking a decision to provide all infrastuctural facilities to the Kendriya Vidyalayas at Barpeta during the current financial year; and

if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALIASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) There is no-such proposal at present.

(c) and (d) It has not been possible to provide full infrastructure facilities to Kendriya Vidyalaya, Barpeta as the State Government of Assam has not yet transferred suitable land to Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan for construction of the permanent building for the school.

Targeted capacity for primary, secondary and higher education

315. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

the targeted capacity building for primary, secondary and higher secondary levels at the end of the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

the extent of increase in percentage of each level that would be achieved during the plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) The capacity building in elementary and secondary/higher secondary education is an ongoing exercise, which is spearheaded by the national apex institutions like National Council of Educational Research